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Dr. Sharp reports that 64 slides have been purchased and that Dr. H. A. Pilsbry has presented 14, making the number of slides in the collection 1,447. The Schaeffer collection of some 2,000 slides have not yet been catalogued. It is hoped that this will be done during the coming spring.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge my obligation to my assistant, William J. Fox, for efficient service, both in the Library and in the issue and distribution of the Academy's publications, during my attendance at the meeting of the American Library Association in Portland, Oregon, and earlier in the year during a prolonged and, for a time, critical illness.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,  
*Librarian.*

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#### REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The collections in the care of the Curators are in excellent condition, and during the year just passed much progress has been made in their study and arrangement.

Repairs have been made to the heating plant and to the roofs, while an appropriation of \$20,000 from the State Legislature during the last regular session has made it possible to take preliminary steps toward several important improvements to the building, to be carried out early in the coming year, comprising chiefly an entirely new roof for the older building.

A telephone system connecting the different offices and departments has been installed.

Six new exhibition cases, uniform with those previously provided, and furnishing in all 500 square feet of exhibition space, have been erected for the display of the mounted mammals and birds, Mr. Clarence B. Moore has added another handsome case to accommodate the recent accessions to his archæological collections.

A number of wooden storage cases with panel doors have been procured for skins of large mammals and birds and a similar series of smaller cases for mollusks. Many air-tight tin cases have also been provided for storage of small birds and insects, as well as 245 Schmitt insect boxes.

During the year Mr. Clarence B. Moore has continued his investigations of the Indian mounds of the Gulf States and has added a number of valuable and unique specimens to his collection. Foremost among

these is a remarkably beautiful stone vessel, bearing a representation of a duck's head rising from the rim, which was discovered near Moundville, Ala.

Early in the year Mr. Samuel N. Rhoads was sent out in the interests of the Academy to explore the lower Colorado river and adjacent parts of Lower California. Owing to unprecedeted floods in the region the expedition was not so successful as had been expected, but a valuable collection of birds and mammals was secured.

Dr. Henry Skinner spent the greater part of the summer in the Huachuca Mountains of southern Arizona collecting for the Museum, and brought back a series of 2,500 insects of exceptional interest as well as a number of valuable reptiles and mollusks.

Through the liberality of Mr. Morgan Hebard, Mr. J. A. G. Rehn was enabled to accompany him on a trip through central Florida collecting Orthoptera, half of the entire series of 4,000 specimens becoming the property of the Academy.

Mr. Stewardson Brown, through an arrangement with the New York Botanic Garden, was also enabled to visit Bermuda with the Director, Dr. N. L. Britton, and a full series of their joint collection, probably the best yet made on the island, has been added to the Academy's Herbarium.

Among the additions to the Museum during the year especial mention must be made of a notable series of about 500 birds from British East Africa, collected by Mr. George L. Harrison, Jr., and deposited in the Academy.

A collection of marine animals on the Florida coast by Mr. George Wood, a series of reptiles obtained for the Academy in Kansas by Mr. C. T. Sands, and a valuable collection of mollusks procured in eastern Cuba by Dr. H. M. Hiller, were also added to the collections.

Detailed accounts of the year's work in several departments are appended. In addition to these, the task of attaching tin tags bearing the catalogue numbers to the entire series of reptiles and batrachians has been completed by Messrs. Rehn and Lorrilliere. The smaller mammalian skulls have also been labelled and systematically arranged, while a rearrangement of a large part of the study series of mammal skins has been effected.

Mr. Fowler has continued the identification and arrangement of the fishes, besides making large collections of local species. Dr. J. Percy Moore has continued his study and care of the Helminthological collection, and Miss H. N. Wardle has made progress in the cataloguing of the archæological material.

A number of mammals received from the Zoological Society of Philadelphia have been mounted or prepared as study specimens in the Taxidermical department, notable among the former being a bull American Bison, a Wild Boar and a Bubaline Antelope.

Besides the services rendered by the Museum staff and the students of the Jessup Fund, the Curators are indebted to Dr. P. P. Calvert, Messrs. Erich Daecke, H. W. Wenzel, H. L. Viereck and E. T. Cresson, Jr., for aid in the Entomological department, and Mr. S. S. Van Pelt in the Herbarium.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Society, Philadelphia Botanical Club, Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and the Entomological Club of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have held meetings at the Academy during the year. At the time of the meeting of the latter body in Philadelphia a general meeting of entomologists was held at the Academy with a view to forming a national organization, and a reception was given by the Botanical Section to the visiting botanists.

The collections have been constantly studied by visiting specialists, and during the year material has been loaned to Walter K. Fisher, E. L. Morris, Miss H. Richardson, Carlton R. Ball, Paul Bartsch, C. V. Piper, E. W. Nelson, F. C. Paulmier, W. H. Osgood, E. B. Williamson, H. F. Osborn, R. L. Ditmars, H. L. Clark, F. C. Baker, H. C. Oberholser, G. S. Miller and A. Ortmann.

SAMUEL G. DIXON,  
*Curator.*

#### REPORT OF THE SPECIAL CURATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOLLUSCA.

The collections of mollusca remain in good order, though from the crowded condition of the department the specimens of some groups are not as accessible as we would desire. The installation of a series of storage cases has given room for a rearrangement of the fresh-water mussels, which have been reclassified in accordance with Mr. Simpson's recent synopsis of the group, and now occupy about 850 square feet of space. Several extensive families of small land snails have been removed from the exhibition series and rearranged in storage cases, leaving merely a few typical species to represent them in the public exhibit. The series of American land snails, rearranged and expanded, is in storage cases, occupying about 600 square feet. The rapid growth of the collection has continued. Mr. Y. Hirase, of Kyoto, has continued his sendings of Japanese mollusca, comprising many new forms.

We have also been favored with a set of duplicates of Japanese freshwater bivalves from the Imperial Museum at Tokyo.

The study of the mollusca collected by Mr. J. H. Ferriss and the Curator in the Southwestern expedition of 1903 has now been completed and a full report thereon prepared. The collections made in the Southwest by Dr. H. Skinner, T. D. A. Cockerell, Joshua and Albert Baily and others have been included in this report.

A series of Alabama mollusks, supplementing that obtained last year, has been purchased from the veteran collector, H. H. Smith.

Numerous members of the Academy and correspondents of the Curator have also contributed largely to the collection. A list of these gifts is given in the Accessions to the Museum.

Seventeen papers, based chiefly upon new material, have been published during the year by the Special and Assistant Curators of the department.

All of the Pliocene invertebrate fossils in our possession have been gathered together and installed in two large cases in the gallery formerly occupied by birds.

A large part of the Special Curator's time has been occupied with the preparation and publication of the *Manual of Conchology*, in which the family *Achatinidae* is dealt with.

Mr. E. G. Vanatta has continued his efficient work as assistant in the department throughout the year.

H. A. PILSBRY,  
*Special Curator.*

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#### REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS.

##### THE MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Section has this year with increased zeal and yet better results continued its meetings and field excursions.

There have been nine meetings, with an average attendance of over 14. Communications were made by Dr. Florence Bascom, on the Piedmont belt of Pennsylvania, and on the crystalline rocks of the Coatesville and Phoenixville Quadrangle; by Mr. Gilbert Van Ingen, on fossils of southwestern Arkansas (illustrated by lantern slides); by Mr. S. H. Hamilton, on moulders' sands; by Mr. F. Lynwood Garrison, on Santo Domingo (illustrated by lantern slides); by Miss Mary S. Holmes, on asphaltum in California; by Dr. Benjamin L. Miller, on the geology